When the new New-York Wool Exchange opens in May, it will open to considerable purpose. Thanks to the ingenuity of Professor Ernest Fahrig, a German chemist and engineer, and William T. Cutter, State Chemist of Connecticut. American wool now promises to bring from 3 to 10 cents a pound more money than heretofore. When it is realized that nearly 500,000,000 pounds of wool have been coned in the United States in the year 1894, the | MOONSHINERS UNDER WATER difference is considerable.

The variation in price will be due to simply one thing-good washing. American wool has been as good, and in many cases better, than foreign wool, but Old World cleaning methods have been superior, with the result that foreign wool has com-manded a better price from those manufacturers

who require a superior staple.

Now, however, there is much reason for believing that the tables are turned. The Empire Wool Cleaning Company, a New-Jersey corporation, controlling the Cutter and Fahrig patents and processes, is in a position to turn out a better American wool than the best foreign wool at no increased About 20 per cent of uncleaned wool is wool-The Fahrig and Cutter process saves all this whereas the old alkali process gets out noth-Thus a gain to the National wealth may be effected to the extent of 100,000,000 pounds annually of pure animal oil, valuable as a base for ointments, soap and other preparations, now being sold for 60 cents a pound.

are stupendous figures, but they appear to be fully justified by the facts and supported by

competent and authoritative testimony.
Yesterday the Board of Directors of the Empire Wool Cleaning Company decided to take steps to construct another plant on New-York Bay, in order to be in a position to fill orders and facilitate the

Wool Cleaning Company, was seen yesterday and confirmed the news.

"We intend to work the capacity of our plant at Pompton Lakes night and day," said Mr. Briggs. but we realize that a new plant on the water front will soon be imperatively necessary. As it may ake six months to build another plant, we are putnot care to say anything about the value of our process. It must speak for itself. It is already fairly well known to these who are connected with the wool industry. At some later time I may be prepared to say something upon this subject for

Mr. Allan Macnaughton, treasurer of the New-York Wool Warehouse Company and president of the Macnaughton Company, one of the largest wool corporations in the United States, told The Tribune man that he had been watching the development of the new scouring process with the keenest interest. "I want to say to The Tribune," said Mr. Mac-

naughton, "that a vast economic question is in voived in this simple matter of cleaning wool. I believe I do not exaggerate when I say that it bids fair to revolutionize the whole wool industry. To understand the problems involved you must realize that the wool of commerce is not wool only; it is largely grease. Before it can be used by the looms it must be cleaned. Now, here is just where American wool has long been at a disadvantage. In this country the green wool is cleaned by an alkali or some secret process, which injures the fibre more or less and leaves the product harsh and brittle. In England and elsewhere abroad the wool is stored in warehouses for two or three years, and turned over and over until it is thoroughly oxydized, or, as the phrase goes, 'seasoned.' Then, and not till then, it is cleaned and the injury to the wool is greatly less than by our more careless and haphazard method.

"Now, there is no secret about the Fahrig It employs a harmless hydro-carbon, extracts all the wool-oil, and leaves the wool in not only as good, but, all things equal, in a better condition than foreign wool. I will show you some of this new American wool, for it is in a sense new."

Mr. Macnaughton here produced a tin case of wool cleaned by the hydro-carbon process, and another sample cleaned by the old process.
"Now," said Mr. Macnaughton, "you see the dif-

ference at once This new process fibre will give a softer and finer fabric than anything from the best English mills. The old process fibre is comparatively dark, harsh and wiry.

"When you realize that the new process fibre will bring to the wool-grower from 3 to 19 cents a pound more, according to the sort, the figures fairly take one's breath away, for the consumption of American woo; bas reached nearly the half-billion point." "What will be the practical outcome of the new

"Why, fust this," answered Mr. Macnaughton; said he would try and solve the mystery in solutiche manufacturer will get a better wool within American territory than he can ever expect to get abroad, and the wool-grower will get a better price."

'But isn't the new process expensive?" "On the contrary," said Mr. Macnaughton, with a grim smile, "It is infinitely less expensive. The spire Wool Cleaning Company are charging a cent a pound, but, of course, they can afford to do

"For the simple reason that they extract all the oil from the wool and have a product which is en-tirely free from any irritating substances, and which sells on the market for 60 cents a pound, with only the cost of refining and marketing the product s a deduction. "The new Wool Exchange will open in the spring,

and with proper sorting the new-process wool ought to quickly vindicate itself. I cannot see how the old scouring plants can compete, either in quality or

Mr. J. H. Benson, No. 101 Reade-st., has had twenty years' experience in the scouring of wool. I have had my wool scoured by the new process," said he. "It leaves the wool white and soft, and in a better condition to take dyes, and it works up softer and smoother and better in every way. Even foreign wool contains quite a percentage of grease after scouring. The new process removes all the

Mr. George Follett, No. 150 Duane-st., says: "Although the alkali process is still in general use, it cannot compare with the new method. There is no kind of wool which this hydro-carbon process will not scour completely and fully, and after cleaning, the wool is equal, if not superior, to the best woo.' from foreign warehouses."

Mr. Brandt, of the Brandt Wool Company, No. 280 Pifteenth-st., Jersey City, says: "Undoubtedly the new process is an epoch-making invention. Caustic soda injures the wool, which is after all nothing but geiatine, whereas the hydro-carbon not only does not injure the fibre, but leaves it in better condition

for dyeing and working up."

Mr. Hammond, head of the cassimere department Mr. Hammond, head of the cassimere department of H. B. Claffin & Co., spoke for the great drygoods firm as follows: "There is no question that foreign fine cassimeres are superior to the American only because the wool is thoroughly seasoned. Naturally, because of its superiority, it brings a far higher price—a price which is more or less fixed because of the interest on the wool while stored. In this country the wool is cleaned while green, and rushed upon the market just like green leather or green lumber. If American wool can be delivered to the manufacturers in as good condition as foreign wool it will command a very much larger price, both from the manufacturer and the trade."

Mr. J. H. Metcaif, of Wanskuck Company, No. E9 Worth-st., said that he entirely concurred with Mr. Macnaughton and Mr. Hammond. "There is no use disguising the fact, fine foreign wools bring more money than the best American. This is due entirely to the treatment of the wool after it has been delivered for seasoning and scouring. The improved scouring process will be of the greatest value, and I am glad that the American wool is to have the benefit of it first."

Mr. F. A. Sawyer, of the Sawyer Woollen Mills.

benefit of it first."

Mr. F. A. Sawyer, of the Sawyer Woollen Mills.

Dover, N. H., said: "Our processes of manufacture are as good, if not superior, to those abroad. All possible improvements in the treatment of the wool

possible improvements in the treatment of the wool are necessarily in great demand."

Mr. H. M. Stockton, representative of the Harris Woollen Company, No. 83 Worth-st., spoke of the big fight against foreign competition, and was of the opinion that the next two months would tell the tale. "The new process to improve American wool is a valuable weapon, indeed, just at this time," said Mr. Stockton.

is a valuable weapon, indeed, just at this time," said Mr. Stockton.

Mr. Charles Roblec, treasurer of the Wool Oil Refining Company. No. 131 Liberty-st, explained the relation of his company to the Empire Wool Cleaning Company.

"We are refiners merely," said Mr. Roblec, "We obtain the perfectly pure oil of the wool, which we sell to the drug trade as a base for ointments. We have also succeeded in completely saponifying the oil, and it is now being utilized for these various purposes: As a hoof dressing for horses, as a belt dressing for power plants, as a nutrient and curative for the skin, and as a soap."

"What do you calculate the world's supply of wool-oil by the new process to be?" asked The Tribune man.

oil by the new process to be "asked The Tribune man."

"Well, there are about 509,690,000 pounds of wool consumed annually in this country alone and say four times as much abroad. Experts estimate that fully 20 per cent of this is wool-oil, which would make 100,000,000 pounds of wool-oil in this country and 400,000,000 pounds abroad.

With a view of ascertaining the possible value of the new oil output, The Tribune man called upon Dr. H. P. Loomis, of No. 58 West Thirty-fourth-st. Dr. Loomis said: "Wool oil is an antiseptic, first used in Vienna, some time within the last five years. It is not older than that, so far as physicians are concerned. It is extensively used, though

TRIUMPH OF AMERICAN WOOL

NEW SCOURING PROCESS WHICH BIDS
FAIR TO REVOLUTIONIZE PRICES.

OCCUPATION OF OIL AS A BY-PRODUCT—WHAT THE WOOL MEN SAY.

When the new New-York Wool Exchange opens.

This priced than vaseline, as it is more valuable as a base for ointments. Like cocoa-butter, it is valuable for rubbing and softening the skin.

Dr. J. West Roosevelt spoke practically to the same effect. "Wool oil is largely used in medical practice, especially for diseases of the skin, because it is readily absorbed. Its extraction by means of a hydro-carbon is so very simple that I am surprised that it has not been used all along, but I suppose that the process has not been economical, owing to the loss of the extracting fluid by distillation."

Dr. Cyrus Edson, of the Health Department of the

tillation."
Dr. Cyrus Edzon, of the Health Department of the City of New-York, was even more emphatic. "The oil of wool is very useful in medical practice, as it has been proved that it penetrates the skin better than any other known substance, and it carries with it any mediche in solution or suspension. The field for its use as a cosmetic is almost unlimited. It has a very high diffusive power."

IN NORTH CAROLINA.

AN HARLY STILL DISCOVERED, WHOSE ONLY ENTRANCE WAS BELOW THE

Raleigh, N. C., Dec. 22 (Special).—The ways of the moonshine's are almost beyond the ken of the reerus officers. Many and peculiar and various are the hiding places of a "blockade still." These il-licit manufacturers of corn juice have been discovered in almost every place conceivable by the his man mind; but the last "find" of the officers of Collector Simmons surpasses all previous ones There is a small island in the Pee Dee River in Richmond County about the size of a ten-zere field The ground is studded with large cypress trees, and the undergrowth of the bushes and briars is almost impenetrable. None of the land has ever been cultivated, because it is difficult to get to the island,

the water being deep and the banks steep and dan gerous. Wild hogs, wild cattle, coons and other wild creatures of various kinds alone inhabit the Ever since the making of corn into whiskey was hipping of wool consigned to them.

Charles H. Briggs, general manager of the Empire | shine distillery on this island. It has been raided many times by the revenue officers without discov-

been seen to land on the island often, but his re-treat has never been discovered. The officers have

treat without success.

Last week Deputy-Collector E. A. Mofflit a ting ourselves in position to meet demand. I do eral raiders occupied this island in the night time and picketed themselves so that no one could arrive or leave the island without being seen. About daylight a cance occupied by two men and containing several five-gallon kegs was seen approaching Moffitt gave orders for them to be allowed to land as the landing was made, J. R. MacRae, who has been suspected of running the still on the Island. sunk the kegs in the river near where the co landed. This movement was not understood by Mofflit, but his surprise was unbounded when Mac-Rae and his companions began to disrobe themselves. After they divested themselves of all their clothes and placed them in the hollow trunk of a cypress tree, Mofflit was dumfounded to see Mac Rac.plunge headforemost into the river and disappear from sight. His companions performed the same feat. Moffitt and his force waited all day for the resurrection of MacRae and companions. Just about sundown it was noticed that a canoe pled by two men, who, upon examination by Moffitt with his spyglass, proved to be MacRae and com-panion, was nearing the other shore. Where they had been and how they got away without being seen was too much for Moffitt and his men. A

> no entrance to it could be found. Moffit and his men made another night on the teland, and next morning MacRae and his compa vere observed returning to the upper landing. Here they undressed, hid their clothes in a trinto the river and disappeared as before. About sundown MacRae and four men suddenly rose out of the water at the lower landing. Clothes were found for all of them in a tree near the river bank, and they dressed in less than three minutes. A long pole with an i'on hook on the end was then brought forth from among the underbrush and leaves, and with this a dozen five-gallon kegs of whiskey were soon brought out of the water and placed in the canoes. As soon as they were loude they paddled away to the Richmond side. and his men from their rendezvous had seen all, this. That the moonshiners' still was under the ground was certain. The moonshiners had been how did they get out of it? This was the question. Finally, one of the men, by the name of Oxendine. said he would try and solve the mystery if Moffitt

headforemost at the same place where he had seen

search up the river disclosed another landing place

been fastened. It was now evident to Moffitt that

there was an underground retreat on the island, but

and a chain and lock where the second canon

More that commonance there where he had seen and More and the ready of the common and the state of the common and the common and the state of the common and the comm MacRae and companion go in and come out.

Mofitt and his raiders waited for the return of

been done at hight to prevent the smoke from being seen. MacRae said the experience of the men in diving and getting into the cave and getting out had been tragical and ludicrous. Two men many years ago had been drowned while trying to get in when there was a flood in the river, and others had been strangled and had to be fished out by their friends several times before they made the trip. The excavation was also used by the deserters as a hiding-place from the Confederate officers.

James Mackintosh, doing business as Mackintosh & Co., lumber dealer at Long Island City, has sold out to the Roscoe Lumber Company, said to be composed of several of his employes, for \$20,000, and composed of several to the control of the control of the control of the control of the creditors have obtained attachments against him in this city, Thomas S. McCool for \$701 and Robert R. Sizer & Co. for \$221. It was alleged that in October Mr. Mackintosh claimed that his busi-

# A Christmas Programme.

1. Messiah-"For unto us a Child is born," Handel 2. Nazareth . . . . 3. Attila-Jesus Deo Vivi . . Verdi 4. Gloria from 12th Mass . . Adam 5. Cantique de Noel . . . 6. Christmas Pastoral, Op. 56 . Merkel

The above selections would make DARING WORK OF REVENUE OFFICERS an appropriate programme for the present holiday season, and if you had an ÆOLIAN in your home this little concert would form a very pleasant addition to the Christmas festivities.

> If you will call at our warerooms, we will be pleased to play for you any or all of the above pieces.

Remember only ONE day's practice makes you a performer.

the same price as ordinary sheet music. d Aolian Music, annual membership fee \$15.

Catalogue Upon Application.

# THE ÆOLIAN CO.,

18 West 23d St., N. Y., and The Lindeman Sons Plang Co., 116 West 125th St., N. Y.

ering the "blockade plant." The moonshiner has | BOSTON: 116 Boylston St. | PHHA: 1117 Chestnat St. PROVIDENCE: 216 Westminster St.

TO UNUELL A BALDACHIN

SOME ORNAMENT TO BE ADDED TO ST LUBIUS PROTESTANT EPISCOPAL CHURCH, IN ONE-BUNDRED-AND-FORTY-FIRST-ST.

A baldachin will be unveiled in St. Luke's Prot



his guilt. He had been under arrest before, but was released on Weinesday, Foster is believed to be also the murderer of Henry Prank, of this city, who was found near a railroad track at Fortscit, Mo., on February 33, with his head crathed in. Foster and Frank left Pank of the returned to Pana two days after Frank's wirtal.

\*\*AN ASSIULT ON ART AND LETTERS\*\*
From Harper's Weekly.

\*\*Several in the ago "The Weekly" called at intention to a full peacing in Congress, which is a direct and victous attack upon art and letters. It is known as the Hicks bill, and proposes two which, if passed, will bring loss not so much upon the publishers of daily and weekly papers as upon the publishers of daily and weekly papers as upon the publishers of daily and weekly papers as upon the publishers of daily and weekly papers as a ponditure of others without making due compensa.

"The New York Sun" has now completely exposed the evil character of the bill, and has added its condemnation of the measure. No doubt the author that some one-has convinced his that he is attempting an act of justice to newstapers whose publishers have been threstened with actions for interpolation, the first inthication. The truth about the bill is quite different. It proposes an amendment requiring that the plates of our propose and exchange and exchange subgright. This mendment raises a quark invoke the converted of the proposes and active and the surface of the protection which the surface of the labor and exchange and exchange and exchange and the part of the labor and exchange and exchange and the plates of order and propose and the proposes are appeared to the propose and the proposes and proposes and proposes and proposes and pro who want to avail themselves of the labor and expenditure of others without making due compensation.

"The New-York Sun" has now completely exposed the evil character of the bill, and has added its condemnation of the measure. No doubt the author of the bill has been deceived, his report shows that some one has convinced him that he is attempting an act of justice to newspapers whose publishers have been threatened with actions for infringement of copyright, their offence consisting in reproducing foreign pictures of no great value, and that would have been publisher who obtained a copyright on the first publisher who obtained a copyright about the bill is quite different. It proposes an amendment requiring that the plates of engravings and etchings shall be made in this country in order to secure copyright. This amendment raises a question that was settled before the copyright bill became a law, with the assent of all who are interested in it, and settled to the satisfaction of Congress as well, it has been agreed that engravings and etchings of foreign artists may be copyrighted in this country. Engravers and etchers have not asked for the protection which Mr. Hicke's bill proposes. The amendment is a blow at the artists, and at the international agreement, in pursuance of which the work of American etchers and etgravers is copyrighted in Europe.

The more vicious of the two amendments, however, is that which practically denies copyright to weekly and daily papers "devoted in whole or in part to the news of the day." If this amendment he adopted, every article and picture in each edition of such periodicals will have to be copyrighted. The purpose of the inventors of such an amendment is clear to every publisher, although it may not be to Mr. Hickes, Fublishers who expend a

CHRISTMAS PRICES IN THE MARKETS.

OUNTERS WEIGHTED WITH ALL SORTS OF PAL

ATABLE PRODUCTS OF LAND AND SEA. No Christmas market on the historic Island of Manhattan was ever better stocked or more se ductive within the memory of the sacred but elusive "oldest inhabitant" than that of the Yuletide of A. D. 1894. Christmas marketing has been in active progress for several days among those who, having large iceboxes, are able to avail them-selves of the lamented Mrs. Partington's advice to take time by the fetlock." Others will come in on the homestreich and it is to be hoped that none will be distanced. Christmas family market ing is a pretty serious business, and the men and women who go forth seeking for something to roast and something to boil, etc., are entitled to profound sympathy. Bewilderment as to choice is a weak word with which to express their per-They are confronted with all kinds of fish that "tipple in the deep"; meat, such as only 'Heaven sends," and comes not whence came the oks who scoreh it; wild fowl and game; prosalbarnyard poultry and plebelan potatoes; eggs, supplied by the fecund American hen; garden truck, fruit and nuts of all kinds that are not hard to

Christmas marketing was very active yesterday, and will be more so to-morrow. Fulton, Washington and other minor markets were thronged with fatherly men and motherly women cagerly seekng for raw material from which to manufacthat conventional good cheer for Christmas which, fortunately for most folks, "comes but once a year." But they were not all dwellers in the great metropolis. Long Island, Staten Island, Westchester County and New-Jersey, not to mention Connecticut, the land of wooden nutmegs, hams and pumpkin seeds, each sent its quota of family marketers. The Jersey folk, however, Erstwhile, before the Brooklyp Bridge was opened for public traffic, Fulton Market bore "the palm," Now Washington Market

Fulton Market yesterday was a scene of acivity, but Washington Market resembled the ntless revolutions of a first-class buzzsaw. Men and wemen came and went, but the marketmen on with their ceaseless announcements of "tender turkeys," "nice ducks," "elegant geese," "fine fack-rablats," etc., and their many importunities for people to buy. Thank-giving Day ings. At 6 o'clock p. m. yesterday he sent a note mark-ting runs mainly to turkeys, but Christmas to the Genial Optimist: "Dine with me. Pvs marketing runs to everything that is in season. Ducks and geese, however, seemed to be "cocks of the walk," and hens and chickens had to take a A noticeable feature of this year's Culetide marketing was the influx of country folk, to came from far and near.

So employeent have been the balsam trie, the red-berried holly, the modest but enherished mistletes and other kinds of Yulcide mings that they seem to have been displayed or sale on almost every street corner in the town. n the middle of Vescy-st, between West and Wash-ngton sts, a line of temporary booths, made of ough heards, was creeked several days ago and in my assertions of last night. I have been all tocked with Carisimas trees and greens. Since over town, and am glad of it. I started up in hen men, women and children who attended the Harlem yesterday, and began to visit the stores ame not alone from the "slums," but also from out. One-hundred-and-twenty-fifth-st. looked like

A. Plank, the principal local wholesaler of Christmas tres and greens, said vesterday that the present | wistfully at the wares they could not buy on a green goods" business was much bricker than that of last year. About 480.00 trees had been. Genial Optimist, with covert surcasm, than that of last year. About 40.00 trees had been than that of last year. About 40.00 trees had been sold, and untied lone of greens and innumerable wreaths, crosses, stars and other fancy devices entwined from a great variety of raw material. He exhibited a bonch of English mestetic larger than any ever before shown in this market. It was as round as a balloon three feet in diameter, and literally londed with immaculate white berries. The interest of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide. I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide, I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide, I didn't half the control of the complete than at last Christmas-tide, I didn't half the control of the complete the complete that the control of the complete the control of the complete the complete the complete the control of the complete the control of the complete the comp

England and France, though limited quantities are received from Georgia and other Southern States, and calls at wholesale for from \$10 to \$13 a case. A single case was retailed yesterday for \$23.

Frankly have before have finer turkeys appeared in any market than can be had this year. The Rhole Island breefers appear to have brought their trade to its limit of perfection. That the great American herd is being appreciated, too, is plain from the large numbers sent nhroad for the holidays. One American living in trains, a great editor, ordered in less than twenty baskets of turkeys, canvashacks and wild mongral grees from a Pulton Market dealer, and the consignment will go out to lay on the stores were on the swing in feature, and the consignment will go out to lay on the large numbers sent nhroad for the holidays. One canvashacks and wild mongral grees from a Pulton Market dealer, and the consignment will go out to lay on country cousins, who were present in large numbers. instances, though as may be also some first of the case of the dome are for the came material. The interstices are filled with a motely of calciuming farges, but there is always conspicuous in the medicy a collection of little circles that seem to be constantly disclosure, and the same time calculately of marketies are circles are at the same time calculately of marketies. So Church is one of the oldest Protestant Erissonal organizations of this city. The centeration is some which founded it in 182. Then it fourthful at No. 83 Hudonest. In that period to the city, and the first period of the control of the control

# GOOD THINGS FOR YULETIDE Waterman's Ideal Fountain Pen

Christmas Present!

Because, as a daily companion for a lady or a gentleman, it is useful and will be treasured

Is the Best

for years as a constant reminder of the giver. If your stationer will not supply it, don't take anything else, but buy directly of us. L. E. Waterman Co., 157 Broadway, New-York, N. Y.

Oyster crabs sell for 12½ cents an ounce. White-bait is 25 cents a pound. Hard crabs are 53 a hundred and crawfish the same. Dressel cels are 15 cents a pound and live cot 8 cents. The market is flooded with Florida oranges, mandarins, tangerines, grape fruit, etc. Selected Floridas, carrying from 15 to 200 in a box, can be had for \$2.75 to \$3 a box; tangerines, \$4.50, and mandarins, \$1.50 a box. The retail price of oranges ranges from 39 to 50 cents a dozen. Grape fruit sells at \$1 a dozen.

A CONVERTED PESSIMIST. HE FOLLOWS THE ADVICE OF HIS FRIEND, THE OPTIMIST, AND SEES PROSPECTS OF OLD-

TIME CHRISTMAS CHEER. The Great American Pessimist and his friend, the Genial Optimist, sat at dinner on Friday night. They were both in their usual frames of mindth one gloomy and sour, the other bright and "This will be a poor Christmas," said cheerful. the Pessimist, as he gloomily peered into his empty wineginss, "there is no money in circula-tion; trade everywhere and in every branch of it is depressed, and hundreds upon hundreds of families will have to forego their usual Christmas elebrations. The times are so very bad," and the Pessimist sighed.

"Now, look here," said his jolly friend, "you're making a mistake. Have you been around any-where? Have you seen the sights? Have you visited the stores or walked in the streets where the great stores are? No. Of course you have not. Now, just take a trip to-morrow and see if your present gloom is not dissipated."

The Great American Pessimist shook his head sadiy, but resolved to try the experiment. , will pass away an hour or so." he said to himself; so early ye terday morning he started to inspect and revel in the gloom of half-deserted stores and in the dearth of Christmas shoppers, and Christmas greens and Christmas good cheer gen-erally. But he did not revel in these, his imaginsomething to tell you."

So again last night the Persimist and the Optimist sat at dinner. The former's eyes were bright and he was no longer a persimist. He had been converted. He had seen crowded streets, great stores filled with every imaginable article, and he had seen the "hundreds upon hundreds" of the dismrt families of his gloomy prophecy surging in and out of the stores and buying freely. longhing and chatting, bright-eyed and filled with pleasant anticipations of next Tuesday morning. "Well," said the Cheerful Optimist, as the smoke curled up from his eigar, "you have something to tell me, I believe." "I have," replied the Converted Pessimist. "I

we been kept busy from may morn till there. I found them jammed. Why, it was hard cy eve in waiting upon retail purchasers, who work to get into any of them, and harder to get the most alone from the "clums," but also from the most aristocratic parts of the city.

George Eggers, the veteran manager for George
there were so many people up there."

"They were all poor and gloomy, and were gazing."

count of hard times. I suppose," remarked the

the start in most peatedly pointed great that any a both Washing-crewith Down in est and the East and the East and turkey with the conductive of the conduct

Then the Converted Pessimist said, after a pause:
"I have aiready told you that I am glad that I followed your advice. I repeat it. My rambles yesterday have showns me that New-York people can rise superior to hard times, that trade is good and that happiness will reign next Tuesday. Here's to you."

JOY AT WILSON INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL. A Christmas festival at Wilson Industrial School

and Mission for Girls, St. Mark's Place and Avenue terday afternoon. In the day-school room 150 little girls assembled and gave a programme of singing and recitations, conducted by Miss Ludlam, the principal, several philanthropic men and women being present. The children then marched to the par-lor, where they received woollen shawls and stockings, toys, confectionery, buns, etc., which were distributed by the matron, Miss R. H. Parker, and distributed by the matron, Miss R. H. Parker, and others. A large and elaborately trimmed Christmas tree in the dining-room next delighted the little ones, who joyously played around it till evening. The school is now in the forty-second year of its beneficent work. Mrs. Jonathan Sturges, Mrs. H. H. G. Sharpless and Mrs. Margaret Collins are the directors; Mrs. Aaron R. Smith, treasurer; Mrs. Edward G. Janeway, secretary and the Rev. Daniel Redmond, missionary. 

YOUNG WOMEN TO APPEAR AS MINSTRELS, The entertainment which the Young Ladies' Charitable Society is to give on the evening of January 31 will, without doubt, prove a financial and social success. It is entitled a "military minstrel performance," and will be given at the Lexington Avenue Opera House, Fifty-eighth-st., near Lexington-ave. Already more than half the house has been sold. The young women will black theli faces for the cause of charity, and their business manager says that of the eight end "men" four are in favor of wearing trousers, and four want to compromise on bloomers. It is said the "bones" to compromise on bloomers. It is said the "bones" are in favor of the innovation, but the tambourines are more conservative. All of them are willing to leave it to the decision of Miss Minnie Apfel, who is the principal "end man," who was the interlocutor last year, and her decision is awaited with interest. The young women are practising every Sunday, coached by William "Josh" Daly and "Loney."

Those who did not visit the three days' auction sale of old cloisonné enamels, antique porcelains and other specimens of Chinese antique art at the Fifth Avenue Art Galleries, No. 366 Fifth-ave., missed a rare opportunity to secure exquisite gems at prices that must have made the auctioneer gasp. The sale was closed yesterday. A larger crowd than on the two previous days was present, and somewhat better prices were realized. Among the many rare articles disposed of may be mentioned a blue and white, soft-paste, crackled ginger jar of the Yung-Ching era. 1723-1736 a blue and white amphoraform vase, landscape and river views, Klen-lung era, 1726-1733; and a grand grapevine and dragon vase of the Kang-He era, 1661-1722, twenty-one inches in height, with teakwood stand.

# SEWING MACHINES

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Useful Athletic Presents FOR CHRISTMAS. Boys' and Girls' Bicycle Pneumatic Tire

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Foot Balls, Sweaters, Base Balls. Chest Weights and Uniforms For PECK & ICE SKATES

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THE PRICE OF CHICAGO SIDERMEN.

IT IS SAID TO HE SOO EACH, BUT MR. POWERS DENIUS THAT HE OFFERED TO DELIVER AT THAT OR ANY OTHER PIGURE.

AT THAT OR ANY OTHER FIGURE.

Chicago, Dec. 22—"The Heraid" this morning prints a sensational story to the effect that Aiderman John Powers agreed to sell out the Chicago Board of Aidermen for \$25,088. A reporter for the paper, concealed in a closet, took down what purports to be a stenographic report of the conversation, in which the proposition was made. For this sum of money, the story goes, Mr. Powers agreed to kill the cigarette ordinance now pending. He made the proposition to Nell McCouli, the resident agent of the American Tobacco Company, and the reporter was present by Mr. McCouli's invitation. There were forty persons, he said, to be "fixed," and they demanded \$800 each for their votes, The Aiderman assured the cigarette agent that unless he paid the money the ordinance, which fixes the he paid the money the ordinance, which fixes the license at \$500 a year and would have the effect of driving small dealers out of the business, would

surely be passed

The visit of Alderman Powers was preceded by that of another Alderman, whose name is not given.
This Alderman paved the way for his superior, and acted as stool pigeon in the whole affair. Mr. Mc-Coull agreed to telegraph to New-York, where the principal offices of the company are, and find out what it would do in the case. He promised to let Alderman Powers know the answer on Thursday afternoon. When the time came he telephoned be had not yet received an answer, and Mr. Powers company was heard from there being a special eeting of the Council that night. Several other Aldermen were implicated by name, but their names were held back. Alderman Powers, when seen to-day, did not

deny the fact that he had an interview with Mr. McCoull in the laster's office on Tuesday evening, but did deny that he made any suggestion of a bribe, or that he had a my suggestion of a bribe, or that he intimated that he would accept one. Nine-tenths of the conversation in relation to bribery which is attributed to him came, he says, from the lips of Mr. McCoull. According to Alderman Powers, "Bob" Moore, a salesman for the American Tobacco Company, called on him last Saturday and arranged for a meeting between the Alderman and the advertising manager for the Trust at the Leland Hotel at 1 o'clock on Monday. Mr. Powers continues:

day. Mr. Powers continues:

On Monday I went to the Leland Hotel and met Moore and the agent. The latter wanted to see me alone, but I insisted on Moore being present. The advertising man asked me why I wanted that cigarette ordinance passed, and after I had stated why I favored its passage he made several hints at money consideration, and finally, after pulling a large pocketbook from his coat, said: "it matters not to our concern whether you support or oppose the ordinance, for I hold Mayor Hopkins and enough of the Aldermen in this pocketbook to defeat it without your assistance." Later in the day the advertising agent sent for me and asked me to call at his office Tuesday evening, and finally consented. Soon after no arrival at McCoull's office Tuesday evening. McCoull intimated to me that if it cost \$25,000 he would defeat the ordinance when it came up for final passage. The great trouble was, he said, that he did not know who would be the proper party to handle the money. I told him there was no money consideration which could influence my course, and that now, more than ever, I would work for the passage of the interview printed in a morning paper, want to say that nine-tenths of the statements attributed to me were made by Mr. McCoull—that his exact language was in many cases presented as mine, and it was very evident to me that the whole maiter was a concocted trap.